NRA
NATIONAL YOUTH HUNTER EDUCATION CHALLENGE

NRA YOUTH HUNTER EDUCATION CHALLENGE

YHEC

JULY 23-28, 2017

NRA Whittington Center

Raton, New Mexico

EAT LOCAL.

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Welcome to the 2017 NRA Youth Hunter Education Challenge National Championship

NRA's Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC) is celebrating its 32nd year of training and mentoring America's next generation of hunters – today's youth. As the rights of lawful American hunters and gun owners continue to face attack, today's social and political environment is also making it more difficult for people to get into the field to learn about hunting and the outdoors. By providing an educational and safe environment where youth can learn responsible firearm use, gain exposure to the outdoors, and participate in live-fire events, programs such as NRA YHEC are crucial to the survival of hunting and shooting sports.

YHEC is now in its 32nd year of educating America's young hunters, and it is critical that it and similar programs be more readily available for our youth. YHEC participants realize the value of hunting in our country's heritage and conservation efforts – they not only walk away with a thorough understanding of hunting's role in renewable natural resources, but they also learn respect for the kill and respect for the use of a firearm. Safety is our number one priority.

Today's youth are the future of our country and the NRA will always rely on people like you – educated, safe, ethical hunters – to spread the word about the benefits of hunting and wildlife management to society. We hope that the skills you practiced and knowledge you gained through YHEC will influence, educate, and encourage the involvement of others. The future of hunting in North America heavily depends on the youth of today!

As always, the NRA Recreational Programs & Ranges Division continues to thank the sponsors, volunteers, staff, instructors, coaches and families of the NRA Youth Hunter Education Challenge for their unwavering support. We couldn't do it without you!

We hope that you have a fun and safe week. Enjoy your time at the NRA Whittington Center

-The NRA Outdoor Recreational Programs Department

YHEC

Help Build the Next Generation of Hunters

NRA's Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC) provides a fun environment for kids to improve their hunting, marksmanship and safety skills. Through simulated hunting situations, live fire exercises, educational and responsibility events, YHEC helps build upon skills learned in basic hunter education courses and encourages safer, lifelong hunting habits. From rifle, bow and muzzleloader shooting at life-sized targets, to wildlife identification, map and compass orienteering and more, YHEC participants can get hands-on training in eight skill areas, giving them expertise in all methods of take and all types of game.

It is up to us to ensure that America's hunting heritage is passed down to future generations.

Many clubs, groups, organizations and individuals across the country proudly host YHEC events each year. NRA supplies everything you need including T-shirts, game targets, bags, scorebooks and more! If you'd like to host an event in your community, all it takes is an appropriate location, an organizational skill or two, and the ability to obtain a resource of volunteers to help conduct the event.

Help ensure our rich hunting traditions stay alive. Register to host a YHEC event today by visiting YHEC.NRA.org or contact:

(800) 492-4868 opt. 3

yhec@nrahq.org

Table of Contents

Program Regulations 1
Guidelines 1
NRA Hunter's Code of Ethics 2
Weather Conditions 2
What Happens in Adverse Weather 3
Schedule of Events 5
Friday, July 21 5
Saturday, July 22 5-6
Sunday, July 23 6
Monday, July 24 6-7
Tuesday, July 25 7
Wednesday July 26 8-9
Thursday, July 27 9-10
Friday, July 28 10
Facts About Raton, NM 11
Who is a YHEC Participant 13
Tug-a-War Rules 15
In Memoriam 19
Sponsors 20
YHEC Quilt 21

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NRA

HUNTERS *for the* HUNGRY

Hunters for the Hungry is an initiative created by the National Rifle Association to give back to communities by supplying thousands of meals to the needy throughout the country.
The NRA works closely with state agencies to put interested individuals in touch with programs in their area and foster public awareness through education, fundraising and publicity.

2 MILLION
POUNDS OF MEAT DONATED PER YEAR

8.1 MILLION
MEALS DISTRIBUTED PER YEAR

HUNTERS FOR THE HUNGRY INITIATIVE OFFICIALLY STARTED IN

1993

BY THE NRA

47

STATES WITH A PROGRAM/AFFILIATE BRINGING HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF POUNDS OF VENISON TO HOMELESS SHELTERS, SOUP KITCHENS, AND FOOD BANKS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES.

TOP 5

STATES IN 2016

FOR MEAT DONATIONS COLLECTED

VIRGINIA MISSOURI MARYLAND OHIO NEW YORK

80%

OF THE U.S. HAD AN ACTIVE HUNTERS FOR THE HUNGRY PROGRAM DURING THE 2015-2016 HUNTING SEASON

INTERESTED IN DONATING?

HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- **GAME MUST BE LEGALLY HARVESTED**
- **ALL GAME MUST BE FIELD DRESSED**
- **EACH STATE HAS DIFFERENT RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR DONATIONS, PLEASE CHECK WITH YOUR LOCAL DROP OFF LOCATION PRIOR**

HOW THE NRA SUPPORTS STATE-LEVEL EFFORTS

The NRA serves as a national repository Of information on existing programs

Independent groups AND programs are eligible to apply for Friends of NRA grants to assist in covering the costs of large-scale processing, packaging, storage and distribution

The NRAworks hand-in-hand with Many programs to help get the Word out locally and nationally

Whether you donate meat, money or time—
your generosity is sure to have an
impact on your community.

For more information on your local hunters for the hungry operation visit: hfth.NRA.org
or Contact: 1-800-492-HUNT

What would you give to keep our hunting heritage alive?

America's hunting tradition is a core part of our values—one that we believe is important to pass on to the next generation.

The National Rifle Association is working hard to provide opportunities to instill a lifelong passion for hunting through programs such as the NRA Youth Hunter Education Challenge.

Since 1985, this program has provided over a million young hunters with the best outdoors experience and expertise available, but there is a great need to reinforce and expand this program to ensure the future of our hunting heritage.

To learn more about this opportunity, or to make a tax-deductible gift to the Youth Hunter Education Challenge,

call 1-877-NRA-GIVE, or go to nragive.com

The NRA Foundation
Teach Freedom.

Your gift will do more than introduce young people to hunting. You will be keeping an American tradition—and the freedom that goes with it—alive and thriving for generations to come.

© 2011 National Rifle Association of America

Program Regulations

SAFETY WILL BE THE FIRST AND FOREMOST CONSIDERATION DURING ALL YHEC ACTIVITIES.

Participants and spectators assume all risk of personal injury or property damage as noted on the required release form accompanying registration materials.

Participants violating any safety rule as established within program rules and regulations will be given one warning and face disqualification from further participation should a second infraction occur. If the safety violation is severe, the participant may not be given a warning.

Participants provide their own firearms, bows, arrows, compasses, and eye and ear protection.

Individuals may not participate for another in any activity.

Participants/spectators are expected to exhibit behavior above reproach at all times.

All participants and parents/guardians must sign a release regarding behavior before the event.

Guidelines

The following guidelines are to be followed by participants:

- The last relay of participants per event during the morning schedule begins at 11:15 a.m. for the shooting events and 11:00 a.m. for the responsibility events.

  (Exception: Hunter Responsibility Exam)
- Registered individuals attending the first relay of the morning should prepare to report for event orientation 15 minutes prior to the start of those events.
- Follow all range and safety guidelines during the program.
- Ammunition will be provided by the NRA at each shooting event. Participants electing to use other ammunition, muzzleloading accessories, or round balls not provided by the NRA, must turn these into the Event Director prior to participaing in the event.

NRA Hunter's Code of Ethics

- I will consider myself an invited guest of the landowner, seeking his permission and so conducting myself that I may be welcome in the future.
- I will obey the rules of safe gun handling, and will courteously but firmly insist that others who hunt with me do the same.
- I will obey all game laws and regulations and will insist that my companions do likewise.
- I will do my best to acquire those marksmanship skills which will ensure clean, sportsmanlike kills.
- I will support conservation efforts which can ensure good hunting for generations of Americans.
- I will pass along to younger hunters the attitudes and skills essential to a true outdoor sportsman.

Weather Conditions

The following weather guidelines should be followed during all operations and at all venues at the National YHEC.

Good to Fair

Forecast: Total sunshine, mostly or partly sunny, mostly or partly cloudy, or cloudy.

Wind Speed: 25 mph and under.

Restrictions: Normal operations.

Marginal

Forecast: Mostly cloudy, cloudy with mist, showers, light rain, or rain.

Wind Speed: 25 mph and under.

Restrictions: Operations may proceed. Delays will be at the discretion of designated YHEC officials.

Unfavorable

Forecast: Predominantly cloudy or cloudy with driving or heavy rain, hail, thunder and lightning, or tornado.

Wind Speed: Under or over 25 mph.

Restrictions: Operations will be suspended. Participants must leave venues and seek shelter in a secure facility out of the elements.

What Happens in Adverse Weather?

When unfavorable weather is approaching, please pay close attention to the sound communications being utilized throughout the site. Event Directors must check-in at Operations Headquarters immediately for further directions.

Communications between event officials (NRA and Event Directors) concerning the suspension or re-opening of venues or events will be by radio (verbal) siren, or air horn communications.

Once operations have been suspended, YHEC officials may postpone scheduled events until the following day.

When adverse weather has passed, operations will be reopened at the discretion of designated YHEC officials.

Once notified of adverse weather conditions, participants, coaches and volunteers must leave and seek shelter in a secure facility out of the elements. Do not return to the events until notified that the severe conditions have ended and that it is safe to return.

NRA YOUTH HUNTER EDUCATION CHALLENGE

YHEC

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

#NYHEC

Schedule of Events

Friday - July 21, 2017

Time	Activity	Place/Site
7:00 – 8:00am	Breakfast – Volunteers & Staff	Gunslinger's II Cafeteria
8:00 – 8:15am	Daily Assignment Meeting	Gunslinger's II Cafeteria
8:15 – 12:00pm	Event set-up	Multiple Locations @ WC
8:30 – 12:00am	Volunteer Registration	Ajax Classroom @ WC
12:00 – 1:00pm	Lunch – Volunteers & Staff	Gunslinger's II Cafeteria
1:00 – 5:30pm	Event Set-up	Multiple Locations @ WC
1:00 – 5:30pm	Volunteer Registration	Ajax Classroom @ WC
5:30 – 7:00pm	Dinner – Volunteers & Staff	Gunslinger's II Cafeteria
7:00 – 9:00pm	Event Set-up	Multiple Locations @ WC
9:00pm	Events Completed – Retire for the night	

Saturday – July 22, 2017

Time	Activity	Place/Site
6:30 – 7:45am	Breakfast – Volunteers & Staff	Gunslinger's II Cafeteria
7:45 – 8:00am	Daily Assignment Meeting	Gunslinger's II Cafeteria
8:00 – 12:00pm	Event Set-up	Multiple Locations @ WC
8:00 – 12:00pm	Volunteer Registration	Ajax Classroom @ WC
8:00 – 12:00pm	YHEC Participant Sight-In	Coors Range w/ NRA Range Vols.
12:00 – 1:00pm	Lunch – Volunteers & Staff	Gunslinger's II Cafeteria
1:00 – 5:00pm	YHEC Participant Sight-in	Coors Range w/ NRA Range Vols.
1:00 – 4:00pm	Event Set-up	Multiple Locations @ WC
1:00 – 5:00pm	Participant/Coach Registration	Ajax Classroom @ WC
6:00 – 7:00pm	Dinner – Volunteers & Staff	Coors Building @ WC
7:30 – 9:00pm	Volunteer Orientation	Coors Building @ WC
5:00 – 9:00pm	YHEC Sales Store Open	Coors Building @ WC
9:00pm	Events Completed – Retire for the night	

Sunday – July 23, 2017

Time	Activity	Place/Site
6:30 – 7:45am	Breakfast – Vols. & Staff	Gunslinger's II Cafeteria
7:45 – 12:00pm	Volunteer Event Orientations	Multiple Locations @WC
8:00 – 12:00pm	YHEC Participant Sight-in	Coors Range w/ NRA Range Vols.
8:00 – 12:00pm	Participant/Coach Registration	Ajax Classroom @ WC
8:00 – 2:00pm	YHEC Sales Store Open	Coors Building @ WC
12:00 – 1:00pm	Lunch – Vols. & Staff	Gunslinger's II Cafeteria
1:00 - 4:00pm	Participant/Coach Registration	Ajax Classroom @ WC
1:00 – 5:00pm	YHEC Participant Sight-in	Coors Range w/ NRA Range Vols.
5:00 – 6:30pm	Dinner – Vols. & Staff	Gunslinger's II Cafeteria
6:00 – 9:45pm	YHEC Sales Store Open	Coors Building @ WC
6:00 – 7:00pm	Prepare for YHEC Opening Ceremonies	Coors Building @ WC
7:00 – 8:00pm	NRA YHEC Opening Ceremonies	Coors Building @ WC
8:00 – 9:30pm	YHEC Event Coaches Meeting	Coors Building @ WC
9:30pm	Events Completed – Retire for the night	

Monday – July 24, 2017

Time	Activity	Place/Site
5:30 – 7:00am	Breakfast – Vols. & Staff	Gunslinger's II Cafeteria
7:30 – 5:00pm	YHEC Events Open	Multiple Locations @ WC
8:00 – 2:00pm	YHEC Sales Store Open	Coors Building @ WC
12:00 – 1:30pm	Lunch – Volunteers & Staff	Delivered to Event Sites

Monday – July 24, 2017 (con't)

Time	Activity	Place/Site
1:30 – 5:30pm	YHEC Events Open	Multiple Locations @ WC
5:30 – 7:00pm	Dinner – Volunteers & Staff	Gunslinger's II Cafeteria
6:00 – 9:45pm	YHEC Sales Store Open	Coors Building @ WC
7:30 – 9:00pm	Hunter Responsibility Exam	Coors Building @ WC
9:45pm	Events Completed – Retire for the night	

Tuesday – July 25, 2017

Time	Activity	Place/Site
5:30 – 7:00am	Breakfast – Volunteers & Staff	Gunslinger's II Cafeteria
7:30 – 12:00pm	YHEC Events Open	Multiple Locations @ WC
7:30 – 12:00pm	Cherokee Run Opens	First Site on YHEC Range Rd.
8:00 – 2:00pm	YHEC Sales Store Open	Coors Building @ WC
Purchase YHEC Awards Luncheon tickets and pick up 3-D Archery Target sales tickets at YHEC Sales Store		
12:00 – 1:30pm	Lunch – Volunteers & Staff	Delivered to Event Sites
1:30 – 5:30pm	YHEC Events Open	Multiple Locations @ WC
1:30 – 5:30pm	Cherokee Run Open	First Site on YHEC Range Rd.
5:30 – 7:00pm	Dinner – Volunteers & Staff	Gunslinger's II Cafeteria
6:00 – 9:45pm	YHEC Sales Store Open	Coors Building @ WC

Tuesday – July 25, 2017 (con't)

Time	Activity	Place/Site
Purchase NRA Awards Luncheon tickets and pick up 3-D Archery target sales tickets at YHEC Sales Store		
7:00 – 8:30pm	Special Event – Flu-Flu Shoot	WC 1000 Yard Range
7:00 – 8:30pm	Special Event – 3-Gun Shoot	Coors Building @ WC
7:00 – 9:30pm	Special Event – Swap Meet	Coors Building @ WC
9:45pm	Events Completed – Retire for the night	

Wednesday – July 26, 2017

Time	Activity	Place/Site
5:30 – 7:00am	Breakfast – Volunteers & Staff	Gunslinger's II Cafeteria
7:30 – 12:00pm	YHEC Events Open	Multiple Locations @ WC
7:30 – 12:00pm	Cherokee Run Open	First site on YHEC Range Rd.
8:00 – 2:00pm	YHEC Sales Store Open	Coors Building @ WC
Purchase YHEC Awards Luncheon tickets and pick up 3-D Archery Target sales tickets at YHEC Sales Store		
12:00 – 1:30pm	Lunch – Volunteers & Staff	Delivered to Event Site
1:30 – 5:30pm	YHEC Events Open	Multiple Locations @ WC
1:30 – 5:30pm	Cherokee Run Open	First site on YHEC Range Rd
5:30 – 7:00pm	Dinner – Volunteers & Staff	Gunslinger's II Cafeteria
6:00 – 9:45pm	YHEC Sales Store Open	Coors Building @ WC
Purchase YHEC Awards Luncheon tickets and pick up 3-D Archery Target sales tickets at YHEC Sales Store		
7:00 – 8:30pm	Special Event – Flu-Flu Shoot	WC 1000 Yard Range

Wednesday – July 26, 2017 (con't)

Time	Activity	Place/Site
7:00 – 8:30pm	Special Event – Turkey Shoot	Coors Building @ WC
7:00 – 9:30pm	Special Event – Swap Meet	Coors Building @ WC
9:45pm	Events Completed – Retire for the night	

Thursday – July 27, 2017

Time	Activity	Place/Site
6:00 – 7:30am	Breakfast – Volunteers & Staff	Gunslinger's II Cafeteria
7:30 – 12:00pm	YHEC Events Open	Multiple Locations @ WC

Note: YHEC participants must complete ALL events by 12:00pm on 07/27/17.

7:30 – 1:00pm	Cherokee Run Open	First Site on YHEC Range Rd.
8:00 – 2:00pm	YHEC Sales Store Open	Coors Building @ WC

Purchase YHEC Awards Luncheon Tickets and pick up 3-D Archery Target sales tickets at YHEC Sales Store

12:00 – 1:30pm	Lunch – Volunteers & Staff	Gunslinger's II Cafeteria
1:00 – 5:00pm	Cherokee Run Open	First Site on YHEC Range Rd.
1:00 – 5:00pm	Set-up for YHEC Awards Ceremony	Coors Building @ WC
1:00 – 5:30pm	YHEC Event Clean Up	Multiple Locations @ WC
5:30 – 7:00pm	Dinner – Volunteers & Staff	Gunslinger's II Cafeteria
6:00 – 10:00pm	YHEC Sales Store Open	Coors Building @ WC

Last chance to purchase YHEC Awards Luncheon Tickets. Pick up 3-D archery target sales ticket until 7pm

7:00 – 8:00pm	Special Event – Tug-of-War	Coors Building @ WC
7:00 – 8:30pm	Special Event – Flu-Flu Shoot	WC 1000 Yard Range

Thursday – July 27, 2017 (con't)

Time	Activity	Place/Site
7:00 – 9:30pm	Special Event – Swap Meet	Coors Building @ WC (Front)
7:00 – 10:00pm	3-D Archery Target Sale	Coors Building @ WC (Back)
10:00pm	Events Completed – Retire for the night	

Friday – July 28, 2017

Time	Activity	Place/Site
6:00 – 7:30am	Breakfast – Staff & Volunteers	Gunslinger's II Cafeteria
7:00 – 9:00am	Set-up for Awards Ceremony	Coors Building @ WC
7:00 – 9:00am	Volunteer Check – Out	Ajax Classroom @ WC
8:00 – 3:00pm	YHEC Sales Store Open	Coors Building @ WC
10:00 – 12:30pm	YHEC Awards Ceremony	Coors Building @ WC
12:30 – 2:00pm	YHEC Awards Luncheon	Coors Building @ WC
2:00 – 5:00pm	Volunteer Check -Out	Ajax Classroom @ WC
2:30 – 5:00pm	YHEC Clean Up Continues	Multiple Locations @ WC
5:30 – 7:00pm	Dinner – Volunteers & Staff	Gunslinger's II Cafeteria
7:00pm	Events Completed – Retire for the night	

Saturday – July 29, 2017

Time	Activity	Place/Site
7:00 – 8:00am	Breakfast – Volunteers & Staff	Gunslinger's II Cafeteria
8:00 – 9:00am	Late Participant Volunteer Check – Out	Ajax Classroom @ WC
8:00 – 6:00pm	YHEC Clean up Continues	Multiple Locations @ WC

WC – Refers to Whittington Center

Facts about Raton, New Mexico

HISTORY

Raton, New Mexico was founded in 1880. On the Santa Fe Trail there is a stop called Willow Springs. At Willow Springs there was 320 acres purchased from the Maxwell Land Grant in 1880 that was earmarked for Raton town site. Raton quickly developed as a railroad, mining, and ranching center for the northeast part of New Mexico.

UNUSUAL AND UNIQUE FACT

The name Raton is short for "ratoncito" which is Spanish for little mouse. Supposedly back in the day there were a lot of chipmunks in the area and the local referred to them as "ratoncitos".

HOW DO YOU SAY RATON?

Raton is pronounced with a long "O" as in "Rat-Tone"

TRIVIA FACTS:

- Santa Fe is the highest capital city in the United States at 7,000 feet above sea level
- Each October Albuquerque hosts the worlds largest international hot air balloon fiesta
- The Rio Grande is New Mexico's longest river and runs the entire length of New Mexico
- There are 31 state parks in New Mexico
- In 1999 the state was gifted the nickname "Land of Enchantment"

BACKGROUND:

Francisco Vasquez de Coronado, a Spanish explorer was looking for gold when he traveled into the region of what is now known as New Mexico back in 1540-1542. In 1598 Juan de Onate established the first Spanish settlement on the Rio Grande River, in 1610 Santa Fe was founded and made the capital of New Mexico.

POPULATION:

According to the 2014 census there was 2,085,572 residents of New Mexico.

SAVE THE DATE

2018 NRA National YHEC

July 22 - 27, 2018

Mill Cove Environmental Center
Mansfield University, Mansfield, PA

Who is a YHEC Participant?

1.25 million

Number of adolescents that have taken part in YHEC **since the program's inception in 1985.**

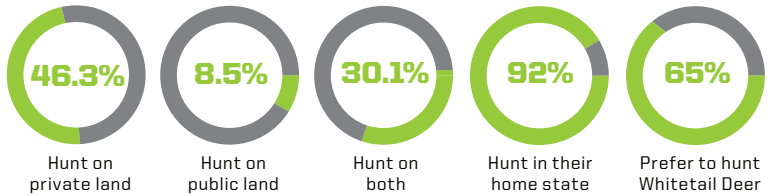
Average Age **14.8**

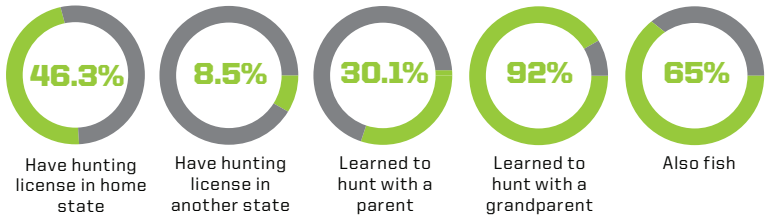
Gender
Male **81.7%**
Female **18.3%**

NRA Members **53%**

Popular Activities
Football, Shooting, Hiking

37 states conduct YHEC events nationwide





National YHEC participants average 6.5 years of hunting experience individually

6.5

Are members of a conservation organization

1,525

The total hunting experience among 2014 National YHEC participants is 1,525 years

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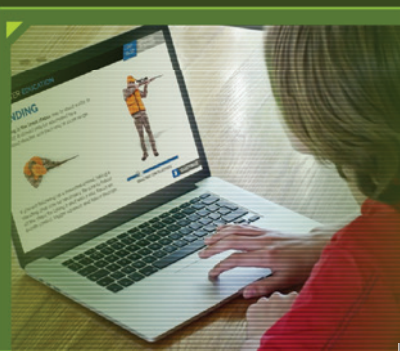

NRA HUNTER EDUCATION

Contact NRA Hunter Services:
703-267-1064 or
nrahunterservices@nrahq.org
for more details

2017 NRA YHEC Tug-A-War Championships

Thursday July 27, 2017 | 6:30 pm, Coors Building. NRA Whittington Center

1. For Division I (Sr.) and II (Jr.) each team will consist of no more than 6 participants (5 youth & 1 adult). For divisions I & II contest the adult must be the anchor. Teams must have the specified number of youth participants with the adult to participate. Teams will have no alternates or substitutes.
2. The rope will be 1" in diameter and 50 feet long with a flag attached to the center.
3. Cones will be set up 5 feet on either side of the centerline. The object is to pull the opposing team so that the flag crosses the plane of the cone on your side of the centerline.
4. The referee will indicate with a whistle or air horn when the match is over and declare the winner.
5. Participants other than the anchor cannot wrap the rope around their hands or bodies. The anchor can secure the rope by wrapping or tying around the waist only.
6. Gloves should be worn. Metal spikes, softball, soccer or football cleats **are not** allowed. Tennis shoes or boots only!
7. Competition will consist of a single elimination knockout format with winners facing off in the finals.
8. There will be a 1-minute time limit for appearance of a late team. Failure to be present will result in a forfeiture of the contest.
9. Sides of the rope from which teams will pull will be decided by a flip of a coin.
10. One person from each team is required to signal to referee when their team is ready to start to pull.
11. If pulling back-to-back contests, a 7-minute rest period will occur, if needed.
12. Injury of a participant will stop the pulling contest immediately. If the participant cannot go on, the contest will be awarded to the opposing team.
13. At the end of each pulling contest, both teams will line up on opposite sites and shake hands through the line of competitors.
14. The Tug-of-War winning teams will be acknowledged and receive their award at the completion of the event.
15. Sign up will be at NRA Sales Pavilion at Whittington Center. All teams must be registered YHEC participants/Coaches. Sign up deadline will be Thursday, July 27, 2017 by 4:00pm at the NRA Sales Pavilion at Coors Building. Brackets will be drawn/set on Thursday in the YHEC Sales Area in the Coors Building at approximately 5:30pm.

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IN MEMORIAM

Daniel Reichard
1949-2017

Carole Jackson
1942-2016

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2017 YOUTH HUNTER EDUCATION CHALLENGE

Youth Hunter Education Challenge Sponsors

Take Home More Than Memories...

2017 NRA National YHEC Quilt Raffle

Tickets: $1.00 each - 6 for $5.00. Tickets for purchase at NRA Sales starting Sunday, July 23, 2017.

Drawing: July 28, 2017 at YHEC Awards Ceremony

TRAVELING TROPHY

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NRA YOUTH HUNTER EDUCATION CHALLENGE

YHEC

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